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A

HISTORY OF BELFAST,

WITH

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

ON

ACADIA.

BY WILLIAM WHITE.

BELFAST:
PUBLISHED BY E. FELLOWES.

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1827.



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DEDICATION.

These pages have been prepared for the inhabitants of Belfast, and to them they are respectfully inscribed by their fellow citizen

THE AUTHOR.

March, 1827.



ADVERTISEMENT.

DOCTOR HERMAN ABBOT had collected many facts, with the view of compiling a history of the town of Belfast. All the good purposes and labours of that worthy man were ended in his death, which occurred, in the midst of his great usefulness, and filled society with grief. His memoranda, by his administrator were placed in the possession of the author, who has found them accurate and useful. And that no part of them should be lost to the public, the manuscript is lodged in the Town Clerk's office.

The manuscripts of Chadwicke and of Mitchell, and the books of the proprietors of the township ; the town records, and the records in the land office and the office of Secretary of State of Massachusetts have been carefully consulted. The aim was a compilation of facts ; so far as opportunity and talent has permitted, in both which the author is much restricted, they are faithfully collected and recorded. Should this sketch preserve a single incident, or material, suitable to be used hereafter when the history of the State shall be written, this essay will not have been altogether in vain.



PREFACE.

History has the advantage of addressing itself to the strongest of the human passions, self-love ; therefore, man in every condition in life from the rudest to the most polished, regards it with peculiar interest. Who is there that has not a strong desire to know what passed among his ancestors ? And who is there that does not believe that posterity will be equally desirous to know the fortunes of their ancestors ? In this manner we are made to enjoy the past and the future as well as the present ; we are brought to a knowledge of generations that are gone by ; and seem also to have a being with those that are yet to be born.

Nations so rude as to have no knowledge of letters or of arts, indulge this passion for history in raising mounds of earth, or heaps of stone, or other monuments, and rehearse songs and ballads, to perpetuate the deeds of ages past ; and to them it is a pleasure superior to all others, excepting that of recounting their own exploits. Among civilized nations this passion grows in proportion to the means of gratifying it ; and it is well, if it excite, as nature intended, the industry of the mind to improvement in virtue ; and make better men, and better citizens, by teaching them philosophy in the school of example. In the following pages the author has cautiously avoided any impeachment of the actions, opinions, or motives of the living ; and of the dead he has been no less careful that nothing but the truth should be spoken.

HISTORY OF BELFAST.

PART FIRST.

This memoir, assuming to be the history of a town only, will go first into a brief detail of the political occurrences connected with the discovery and early history of the ancient province in which Belfast is situated.

If any apology were required for this course, it might be found, in the consideration, that no condensed view of this subject is at present to be had. The incidents of interest connected with that portion of Acadia, included in the present Commonwealth of Maine, are scattered through many books, some of which have become rare ; and many records and manuscripts to which access is with difficulty obtained.

Cabot,¹ Casper de Cortereal,² Verrazzano,³ Horn,⁴ Whitborn,⁵ Humphrey Gilbert,⁶ Bernard Drake,⁷ George Weymouth,⁸ Anthony Shirley,⁹ Charles Leigh,¹⁰ LaRoche,¹¹ Goswold,¹² and Martin Pring,¹³ in the order they are mentioned, and in the several years noted, on voyages of discovery had visited the eastern frontier of North America; but discovered no intention of effecting any permanent settlement. The French took some fish on the banks in 1504, and seventeen years afterwards fifty vessels of the several European nations were engaged in that employment.¹⁴ In 1522, fifty houses had been erected on Newfoundland.¹⁵ The number of fishing vessels had increased by 1578 to three hundred and fifty.¹⁶

Pierre du Gast,* a servant in great favour with majesty, and one of the bed chamber of

1, 1497.—2, 1500.—3, 1524.—4, 1536.—5, 1579.—6, 1583.—7, 1586.—8, 1593.—9, 1597.—10, 1597.—11, 1598.—12, 1602.—13, 1603.—14, Anderson's history of commerce, 2d. 9-34.—15, American Annals, 1, 67.—16, Anderson, 2, 144.

* Sieur de Monts; Sullivan in his history has it De Motte.

Henry IV, was appointed Lieutenant General of Acadia and the adjoining country, with an authority, civil as well as military, unrestricted.

The Lettres* gave him all that portion of America between 40° and 46° of north latitude, and from the Atlantic ocean westward to the western ocean.†

Early in the following year du Gast embarked for America. He entered upon the expedition with all the zeal, that a well founded hope of becoming the sole prince of so wide a dominion, might be supposed to excite. His fleet arrived on the coast at a harbour now called Liverpool.‡ On doubling the Cape Sable and entering the bay of Funday they discovered the harbour of Port Royal; with which, Poutrincourt, a friend of du Gast, was so delighted, that no less could be done, than to make it his by formal assignment.||

After surveying the Bay, du Gast ran down

* L'Escarbot, 417. See appendix No. 1.

† Hazard Coll. page 45, the letters are dated Nov. 8th, 1803.

‡ Belknap's Biog. 1, 324.—|| American Annals, page 148, note 5.

the coast as far at least as Kinnibekei; and returning he passed the winter in a fort which he built on an island in a river by him named St. Croix, which was the first settlement of Europeans in Acadia.

At this period, the public mind became generally awakened in Europe, and making discoveries and planting colonies in America, was the most fashionable of princely employments.

In England, the Earl of Southhampton with his associates, was deeply interested in the subject; and George Weymouth, who twelve years before had been on the Labrador coast, was by them equipped and commissioned to cross the Atlantic in search of a north west passage to China.

This distinguished naval officer has the reputation of commanding the first European ship, that is known to have entered the Penobscot river.* It was in early summer that Weymouth entered the river, when the forest

* 1605, Belknap's Biog. vol. 2, page 149. American Ann. 151.

trees are the richest and the proudest of all the trees, and the scenery was new and bold and imposing. He was lost in solemn delight. On his return to England he published a history of his voyage; and his imagination communicated to his story the spirit and coloring of romance. At first his book gave to the friends of colonization a more extended and animated support;* afterwards it was condemned as a collection of fables.

The abode for one winter, of Popham and Gilbert with 43 others on Parker's Island at the mouth of Kennebec river, cannot be considered a settlement,† but Aaldworth and Elbridge who twenty one years afterwards planted themselves at Bristol, made their patent effectual by an uninterrupted occupation of the territory, and in 1631 received a grant from the Plymouth Company of Devon, investing them severally of 6000 acres, each of their people or servants of 100 acres: and

* In the next year 1606 the grants of North Virginia and South Virginia were made. Sullivan, 272.

† 1607—8.

fifty acres for each child that should be born to the individuals of the company within seven years next after the Grant.* In some instances the lineal descendants of these grantees are now, the possessors. In the same year that Bristol was settled Charles 1st of England made letters patent† to Beauchamp and Leverett investing them of the title to a tract of land east of the Muscongus river and bounded upon it,—and from the Atlantic ocean extending ten leagues into the land.

The description in this grant implies an intention of conveying a territory ten leagues square;‡ but the language adopted is full of uncertainty, and much perplexity ensued in settling its limits.

France in the mean time had made great progress in fortifying her positions on and near the Bay of Funday, and the right of sovereignty over that portion of Maine which has the

* “ The place was occupied soon after by the French” Sir Samuel Argal removed them in 1613 Sullivan (Hubbard) 170.

† Hazard Coll. page 315 vol. 1st.

‡ John Gleason Esq. has the original charter. See Appendix, No. 2.

Kennebec and Androscoggin rivers for its western boundary was claimed by both kingdoms. For a century and a half the question remained unsettled ; although it was repeatedly made the subject of treaty between the two nations ; and not until Quebeck came into the possession of England, was France willing entirely to relinquish all hope of holding a footing upon this part of the new continent.

During this stormy period, whenever the animosity of these rival nations, for any cause was about to discover itself in action, some transaction by authority in Acadia could readily be found to furnish a plausible pretext for war. And these nations, polished as they are, have been, perhaps more than most others, accustomed to enforce their doubtful claims when resisted, by the last argument of kings.

In these conflicts contrary to all humanity the savage was enlisted ; an enemy so ferocious as to make it his amusement to torment his captive. To the sudden invasions of these merciless butchers* the provincials were con-

* Smollett's England, vol. 2, page 575. Phila. ed. 1822.

tinually exposed. So long as the settlements were few and weak they were made to suffer. Those, having been planted under the countenance of one nation, were not to expect in the character of the other any thing but enmity. They preyed upon each other. The inducements the country offered to emigrants were greatly diminished in value by this unsettled and turbulent state of the province. And the melancholy fate that awaited those, or many of them, who had the hardihood to encounter the sufferings connected with the attempt to effect a settlement within the contested territory, was made a standing theme of popular lamentation.

For reasons like these, Acadia continued an almost unbroken wilderness, after villages had been planted on the northern and western borders, and had grown into comparative importance.

Sir Samuel Argal of Virginia, in 1613* found some French families at Penobscot, and also at Mount Mansel,† now Mount Desert.

*Hutchinson, 1, 32. † Sullivan, 274, 275.

and dislodged them; and proceeding eastward, seized the forts of St. John, Port Royal, and La Have, and made prize of the goods and effects they contained. He took with him on his return to Virginia the French settled at the mouth of the Kennebec. The English had not, as yet, extended their views beyond the Penobscot; and the French returned to their more eastern positions. Sullivan says, the Plymouth Colony first visited the Penobscot in 1621;* this is probably an error, for in three other instances† the same historian dates the building of the fort or trading-house at Castine in 1626, and Hutchinson fixes the year to be 1627;‡ and Bristol we have seen was settled in the following year.

The settlement at Castine paid no regard to agriculture; the sole object of that little community was peace and trade with the savages.

James I. of England had made a compliment of Nova Scotia, the English name for Acadia,

* Page 274. † Pages 275, 157 and 158.

‡ Page 32.

to Sir William Alexander,* and Sir William had sold it to France ; and the fort at Castine with the property appurtenant was claimed by the French under the conveyance.† In 1632 a French vessel visited the Penobscot, “having a false Scot aboard ;”‡ they seized the fortress, pillaged it of 500*l.* in property, and departed. The post remained with the English until 1635, when Rossillan, Governor of La Have, despatched D’Aulney to take and hold the possession. Let not France be hastily censured for these measures. Her subjects, as we have seen, had purchased the country of England, and in the treaty of St. Germain, 1632, “the frenchified court of king Charles,”|| confirmed the sovereignty of Acadia in the French throne.§

Girling, commanding an English armed ship,

* 1621, Sept. 10. Confirmed 1625, July 12. Sir William conveyed 1630, April 30, to French gentlemen named, on condition that they are and will be faithful to Scotland. Jefferson’s notes, 244 and onward.

† Hutchinson, 33.

‡ Gov. Bradford’s report in Hutchinson, page 34.

|| Hutchinson’s expression, page 34, vol. 1.

§ American Annals, 265.

at the instigation of the Plymouth colony, immediately attempted to regain the fort at Penobscot, but without success, and France was left in actual possession until 1654.*

D'Aulney was made Governor of Pentagoet,† and died in that office in 1651.‡ At this time Cromwell was at war with Holland, and sent Col. Sedgwick against New-York, the strong hold of the Dutch in America.—Peace was made before Sedgwick had an opportunity to bring his armament into action, and he turned his attention upon Acadia.—First he possessed himself of the fort at Penobscot, and afterwards every other fortress or settlement on the Acadian frontier.

If the Protector did not in his general commission direct the expedition, he made no public disavowal of the conduct of Sedgwick, and could never be persuaded to restore|| the con-

* Am. annals, 284.

† The original French name of Castine, &c.

‡ Sullivan, 282.

|| Cromwell granted Acadia to Etienne, Crown and Temple in 1656. Making the river St. George the western boundary.—Hazard coll. 1, 616. Col. Temple lived at Penobscot some years.—Sullivan, 158.

quered territory. But his successor in 1667 was more complaisant, while a Dutch fleet was carrying war and terror up the Thames, and to free England under such circumstances a peace was purchased of the "allies" upon the best terms to be obtained; and France recovered the possession of her favorite Acadia.

During the past time, the Indians, under various provocations, by them alleged, manifested an increasing bitterness of enmity towards the English settlements. That their complaints had no foundation, is not to be readily admitted. In the fur trade they were liable to be duped; and if afterwards they discovered the imposition it was considered an affront not to be forgotten. In attempting to avenge it they sometimes shed blood.—Themselves sometimes suffered—in either result the contest was food for their implacable resentment.

In the year 1665, Charles II. granted to the Duke of York the section of country lying between Pemaquid on the west and the

river St. Croix ; and, in 1677, the Duke directed his Governor, resident at New-York, to enter upon the patent and hold it in possession. Andros accordingly sent a force to Penobscot, and erected a fort, and established a garrison ; and the settlements in that vicinity were joined by many Dutch families from New-York.*

This fort for some years served to hold the neighboring savages in awe ; especially those upon the Penobscot.

Soon after the peace of Breda, the French regiment of Carignan was disbanded in Canada ; and the commander the excentric St. Castiens came to Penobscot, and took possession of the plantation which Col. Temple had recently abandoned. The Baron, for so Castiens is called, greatly enlarged the gardens, and renewed and strengthened the fort ; his object was trade with the savages ; he had learned their language in Canada, and although a "gentleman of fortune," was not averse to their solitary habits of life.

*Belknap's N.H. 1, 158. Sullivan's M. 160. Am. Annals, 442.

The Baron opened a large trade in fish and furs, which he received in exchange for European merchandize. Naturally artful and insinuating, and being well informed, he soon rendered himself the idol and oracle of the indian tribes. Madocawando, the Sachem of Penobscot, gave to the Baron his favorite daughter, to grace the circle of his indian wives; and whenever the interests of the tribe were at hazard, the father-in-law took council with his son, whose secret influence was felt throughout all the settlements in New-England. In some instances the Baron led the tribe to battle.*

When Acadia, as far as St. Croix, became a part of the Massachusetts by charter,† this already powerful colony began the needful work of protecting the interests of the settlements within that territory. The fort built by Andros at Pemaquid had fallen and decayed. The General Court authorized Gov.

n-a * Abbe Raynal, 7, 219. LaHontan's voyages.
† 1692.

Phipps to rebuild it with stone ; and with all possible expedition the work was executed.

Nor was this all that Massachusetts conceived for the good of their new subjects ; a statute was enacted and published, prohibiting under penalty any subject of France from entering any port in the new portion of the province, without license first obtained from the Governor and council.

Measures less imperious in their bearing would probably, by France, have been deemed a sufficient provocation for renewing the war.

Massachusetts was to be taught, that legislation alone could not prove a sufficient security for her, of the newly acquired territory.

Officers of merit, Iberville and Bonaventure, were commissioned for the service ; and with a sufficient fleet arrived in Penobscot bay. Here Castiens joined them with a force of two hundred indians of Penobscot. Of savages he was a worthy chief. The united force appeared at Pemaquid, on the fourteenth day of August, and beseiged the fort.

No declaration of war had preceded this movement; nothing had transpired to put the garrison on their guard. They were suitably equipped, and sufficiently strong in numbers, to resist the assaults of the tribes of savages that surrounded them. The summons from this great force to surrender the fortress, received an answer of defiance, and the battle began.

An attempt was made to storm the fortress, which proved unsuccessful; and Castiens foresaw that much time would be required to secure their object, if sought through the ordinary modes of warfare; and that what could be done, must be done, before knowledge of the expedition should reach Boston. He formed his purpose, that if they continued to resist, but without final success, they should be given up to the rage of his savages; that in prompt submission alone they were to hope for safety. Such information was appalling to the soldiery to whom Castiens contrived to communicate it in a letter under his own hand; and they constrained their commander to capitulate. No time was lost

in demolishing the fort; and after a stay of some days at Penobscot the armament returned to the Bay of Fundy.*

The surrender was deemed by the government of Massachusetts to have been precipitate, and the commander of the fort was deprived of his commission. The treaty of Ryswick in the following year, was altogether illusory, so far as it concerned the American Colonies.

M. Villabon, in 1698, renewed the war by exciting the savages; and his views were promoted by Ralle, a French Jesuit, who had taken a residence with the Indians at Norridgewog. In him the French had found another Castiens; as a priest, he had secured the confidence of the natives, and moved them as he was instructed by the government of Quebec. The English settlements had long been greatly annoyed by this tribe; and Capt. Harmon and Capt. Moulton were despatched from York† to destroy them. The expedition was managed with energy; eighty of the tribe,

* Hutchinson, 2d, 89, 133, 286. † 1724.

with their priest, were slain; their altar broken down, and their dwellings demolished.* It was a check so severe, that savage courage never after recovered its accustomed tone in the province.

The treaty of Utrecht (1713) it was expected would forever quiet French claims to Acadia. That instrument in the twelfth particular provision, confirmed the province to England, as the same was described in the treaty of St. Germain, or as ancient Acadia.†

The Island of Cape Breton only remained to France. The ancient Acadia was bounded by Henry IV. in his grant to De Monts. The treaty had in some respects restricted it.—The French ministry intended to restrict it much more. They were indignantly opposed; and the colonies still found themselves at war, notwithstanding the declaration of peace.

Beauchamp and Leverett, before mentioned, had not entered upon their patent; and in 1719, John Leverett, at that time Govern-

* Belknap's N. H. 2d, page 60.

† See Appendix No. 3.

or of Massachusetts, representing himself sole heir of Thomas Leverett, who as the survivor of Beauchamp, became the sole proprietor, and preferred his claim to the estate.

Mr. Leverett found many impediments to the establishment of his title; and made it convenient, in order to overcome them, to associate with him nine other persons of great consideration; one of whom was Sir William Phipps, who in his right, brought into the company the Indian deed of Madocawando, conveying the interest the tribe had claimed in the territory. These were afterwards called "the ten proprietors." Subsequently, and in the same year, 1719, twenty other persons were made to share an interest in the patent. By this time, so much of the nobility of Massachusetts had become personally interested in the claim, that its merits were easily made manifest.

But under the treaty of Utrecht the British Crown preferred claim, by right of conquest and cession, to the whole province of Acadia, notwithstanding it had been, by the same crown, before granted. This was not to have

been expected. As subjects of Great Britain, the company had supposed that the benefit of the cession from France to England would belong to them; as England, at a previous period, when their right was not in dispute, with consideration, had bestowed it upon those from whom the claim of the company was derived.

The pertinacity of ministers so alarmed the thirty proprietors, that in 1732 they joined in a deed of one entire half of the patent to Gen. Samuel Waldo, in consideration that he would obtain from the crown a relinquishment of this arbitrary claim.

After many years of untiring application at court, Waldo procured a reference of the question to the "law officers of the crown," who found but little difficulty in forming an opinion in favor of the company.

It was afterwards agreed by the company to dissolve the partnership, and divide the estate. The ten proprietors took to their share Frankfort and that vicinity. The twenty before named, had Camden, Hope, Appleton, Montville and Montville Plantation set to

them; and the residue of the patent appertained to Waldo. When the boundaries of the patent came to be ascertained by actual inspection, it was found that Waldoborough river, and a line from the head thereof to the northwest corner of Thorndike, thence on the north line of Thorndike, Jackson, Monroe and Frankfort to the river, and thence by the river and bay of Penobscot to the sea shore, and thence by the sea shore to the mouth of Waldoborough river, embraced the territory granted.

The necessary surveys were effected by Waldo in 1759, and in September of that year he died at fort Pownal in Prospect.—The general court of Massachusetts Bay in 1762, confirmed the title of the respective claimants to the territory described; and the state legislature in 1785 repeated the same act of confirmation. Two fifths of the Waldo claim having however been sequestered by the state, in the interval, was purchased by Gen. Knox, who had acquired the other portions also, two fifths by purchase, and one by marriage.

After the peace of Utrecht, British power in Acadia began to assume an imposing attitude. The Indians, becoming sensible of their growing weakness, began to be more pacific. Massachusetts was already formidable, and entertained no kindness towards France. French influence was rapidly declining in all the northern provinces, add the loss of Louisburg, in 1745, the founding of Halifax, in 1748, and the capture of Quebec in 1759,* extinguished her last hope.

* In this year Gov. Pownall built the fort in Prospect, at the cost of 4969*l* : 17*s* : 2*d*. and placed in it a garrison consisting of one hundred men. The year previous, the Indians had made an assault upon fort George and the settlements on Georges river. After fort Pownal was built nothing more is heard of their ravages. *Amer. Annals.*

PART SECOND.

The province of Ulster in Ireland, having fallen into the crown by attainder of rebels, James I. of England, introduced companies of farmers from England and Scotland, to improve and enjoy that fertile section of the United Kingdom.

A society of Presbyterians from Scotland, were among them. In the reign of Charles I. and that of James II. protestantism was not favored in London ; in Ireland it was persecuted. These presbyterians had become numerous ; an hundred families of them adopted the resolution of removing to America. They embarked, and with ministers of religion, according to their own forms and faith in the performance and efficacy of worship, arrived at Boston in the autumn of 1718. Early in the following year, a portion of these adven-

turers planted themselves in Nutfield, a plantation in the province of New Hampshire.— Their first care was to place over their religious interests James McGregore, who had accompanied them from Ireland. This little colony were industrious, frugal and pious ; and necessarily become populous, and accumulated property.

Of the Israelites it was said, that the land in which they were strangers could not bear them because of their cattle ; these presbyterians found it necessary to seek some Mount Seir for their accommodation.

In every direction rich land was open to purchasers ; and a company was formed, who examined, and afterwards selected and purchased the site of Belfast.

The heirs of General Waldo conveyed the tract to John Mitchell and thirty one others, in shares, according to the interest of each proprietor.*

* The following is a list of the names of the original proprietors, with their respective number of shares annexed. The whole number being fifty-one.

John Mitchell, 6 shares—John Gilmore, 5—Rob-

This early purchase exempted the inhabitants of Belfast from the great evil, which the want of title, inflicted upon many other towns in Maine after the revolution; yet the entire devotion of Belfast, to the cause of freedom on that occasion, lost them all else but the bare title to their lands.*

Port Patterson, 3—John Steele, 3—Samuel Houston, 2—James McGregore, 2—John Tufts, 2—John Moor, 1—Joseph Morrison, 1—John Durham, 1—William McLaughlin and William Patterson, 1—James McGregore, Jr. 1—John Brown, 1—William Clendinen, 1—John Morrison, 1—Matthew Reed, 1—Robert McElvane, 1—Alexander Wilson, 1—Alexander Stewart, 1—Alex. Little, 1—James Miller, 1—Samuel Marsh, 1—Moses Barrett, 1—John Davidson, 1—David Hemphill, 1—Matthew Chambers and James McLaughlin, 1—Nathaniel Martin, 1—Joseph Greg, 1—John Cochran, 1—Mitchell, Gilmore, Barnett, Tufts, Houston, Moor, and M'Gregore, Jr. as proprietors committee, four shares—James Gilmore, 2 shares.

Mr. John Cochran is the only surviving original proprietor, and resides in Belfast, enjoying a large circle of relatives, and possessing the confidence of very many devoted friends. The evening of life is pleasant to him, and he is closing it in the enjoyment of all its substantial comforts.

The facts which Mr. Cochran has communicated, belonging to this memoir of Belfast, require and receive the acknowledgment of the compiler.

* Belfast, by the Waldo deed, is bounded from half-

In 1770, Mitchell,* Miller,† Chambers,‡ Wm. McLaughlin, Wm. Patterson.¶ and John Cochran, of the original proprietors, and Jas. Patterson, Nathaniel Patterson, John Morrison, and Thomas Steele,§ the representatives of others, began to open the forest preparatory to husbandry. One continued wilderness now extended from Georges' river to the

way creek, (being the westerly boundary of Frankfort) westerly round the harbour called Passagawassa-keag to little river; 2dly, from thence upward by sundry turns in little river, about as far as salt water flows, and crossing the river to a black birch tree, computed thirty-seven chains; 3dly, from thence south 60 degrees west 323 chains to a birch tree; 4thly, from thence north 22 degrees west 372 chains, equal to 4 miles 208 rods, to a rock-maple tree, one rod westerly of a quarry of stones; 5thly, from thence north 68 degrees east 602 chains, equal to seven miles and three quarters, to the westerly line of Frankfort; 6thly, from thence south thirty-seven chains to the largest of half-way creek ponds; 7thly, from thence downwards by the stream, called half-way creek, to the first mentioned place.

* Mitchell settled upon now Thomas Reed's farm.

† Miller where Mr. Frothingham now resides.

‡ Chambers upon Judge Reed's lands.

¶ McLaughlin and Patterson on Mr. Sargent's lot.

§ Morrison and Steele were drowned in Dec. 1770, in attempting to return from Penobscot river, where they had been in a canoe to a corn mill.

Penobscot; and until this time, over this now busy field, the noise of labour had never disturbed the silence of ages. When this little colony had grown to no more than twenty-five families,* their prospects so filled them with hope, that they requested to be incorporated; and the general court of George III. gave their habitation a name, with the usual municipal attributes.

“Previous to executing the deed of Belfast, the grantors had employed Richard Stimson to survey and make a suitable location for a road from Georges’ river in Thomaston to fort point in Prospect; and Stimson having rendered the service, was to be entitled to one hundred acres of land on any part of the route he should select. The work was performed, and Stimson made choice of a plat on the west and adjoining to the “half-way creek,” which is the line between Belfast and

* William Patterson, 2d. and Mary Mitchell were the first to be joined in marriage. Ann Patterson was the first white child born in the town. She was the wife of Enos West.

Prospect. Here Stimson with his family had arrived before the Belfast proprietors had come into possession; and by Chadwick's survey Stimson's location is within the town, and he may therefore be called the first settler, although not connected with the proprietors."—*Dr. Abbot's Ms.*

At Mitchell's house by the shore, eastward and near the mouth of Goose river, on the eleventh day of November, 1773, the corporation was organized. The following is a copy of the warrant.

"To John Mitchell of Belfast, Gentleman,

GREETING.

Whereas the great and general Court at their sessions begun and held at Boston, upon Wednesday the 26th day of May last, passed an act for incorporating a certain tract of land, on the westerly side of Penobscot bay into a Town by the name of Belfast in the county of Lincoln; and the said general Court having empowered me the subscriber to issue a warrant directed to some principal inhabitant in said town to notify and warn, the inhabitants thereof qualified by law to vote in

town affairs, to meet at such time and place as shall be therein set forth; to choose such officers as may be necessary to manage the affairs of said town. At the which first meeting all the male inhabitants that become at the age of twenty-one years, shall be admitted to vote.

These are therefore in his majesty's name to require you the said John Mitchell to notify the said inhabitants of Belfast to meet at your dwelling house in said town, on Thursday the 11th day of November, at ten of the clock in the forenoon. Then and there to choose a town clerk, selectmen, and all other town officers according to law. And make return of this warrant, with your doings, as soon after the same is carried into execution as may be.

Given under my hand and seal at Frankfort, October, 1773.

(Signed,)

THO: GOLDTHWAIT."

The inhabitants when assembled made choice of Col. Goldthwait for moderator.

John Mitchell, *Town Clerk** ; John Brown, Benjamin Nesmith, James Patterson, *Selectmen* ; John Barnet, *Treasurer* ; John Durham, jr. Alexander Clark, James Miller, *Surveyors of highways* ; William Patterson, sen. *Constable* ; John Durham, sen. James Morrow, *Wardens* ; and thus the town became an organized body. Col. Goldthwait here mentioned is the same who at this time commanded the fort on Fort Point ; to this fortress the inhabitants of Belfast were taught to look for succour in a season of distress ; but on the commencement of actual hostilities with Britain, the Colonel forsook the colony and adhered closely to the crown.

This little company were immersed in a wilderness, far from the capitol of New-England, the nursery of the spirit of human freedom, then about to be developed ; first to the admiration, and afterwards the applause of the civilized world ; but while yet in Britain th eir

* The Town Clerks that have succeeded Mitchell are seven. Samuel Houston, Alexander Clark, Jonathan Wilson, William Moody, Benjamin Whittier, Herman Abbot, Nathaniel H. Bradbury.

fathers had entertained similar sentiments, and the half century they, as a people, had already passed in America only served to enlighten the views and strengthen the hopes they had inherited. Their feelings were entirely in unison with the friends of the people; and in 1776 they adopted those precautionary measures,* best calculated to secure the independence of the country.

In addition to a committee of safety, the inhabitants in 1777 elected a censor; whose duty as appears on the record of the meeting was "*to lay before the General Court the misconduct of any person, by word or action against the United States;*" and Solon Stevenson was appointed to this distinguished office. In 1778 the town voted unanimously to approve and adopt the constitution of government, which the Massachusetts colony had prepared for their acceptance.

The period was fast approaching when the

* John Tufts, John Brown, Solon Stevenson, James Patterson, and Samuel Houston Committee of Safety. John Tufts Representative. John Tufts to be Justice of the Peace.

principles of those few patriots were made to undergo the severest test. They were required to deny their professions or sacrifice their property.

General McLean* with a force of six hundred and fifty men had established a post at Bigaduce for the protection of Nova Scotia against the incursions of the patriots. In the summer of 1779, an expedition was fitted out and despatched from Boston to make a conquest of this fortress. Seventeen ships, of all descriptions, having aboard, fifteen hundred troops, Saltonstall commodore, and Gen. Lovell commanding the army, in July arrived in the Penobscot Bay. Three small armed British vessels only were then in the harbour of Bigaduce.

Saltonstall's largest ship carried thirty-six guns. On his arrival, Mitchell and others were requested to visit the fleet and communicate their knowledge of the position and strength of the enemy; these strenuously advised Gen. Lovell to an immediate assault. They saw

* Bissett's England, vol. 1, page 612.

no formidable obstacle to entering the harbor, securing the three vessels that were there, landing the troops and marching into the fort. This counsel was not relished. It was then advised that a portion might land in the harbour, and the residue at Perkin's cove, which was taking the enemy in front and in rear at the same time; this advice was also disregarded. But, in his own time, Lovell landed his men in one body, at Dice's head, a bank so bold and so elevated, as to be ascended by an army only with great difficulty, when no opposition should be offered! McLean had posted a detachment on the summit and disputed the ground. A landing was effected, with the loss of thirteen patriots killed and a number wounded.

Lovell now had his foe in his grasp. But he sets himself down before the fortress, and makes dispositions for a regular siege. The breast work of the enemy was a fence of rails slatted perpendicularly with pipe staves. Weeks were consumed in this indecisive warfare; when Admiral Collier, despatched from New York, arrived in the Bay with a respect-

ble squadron, in aid of McLean. At once all was confusion. Lovell broke up his camp and evacuated it in the night of the thirteenth of August. Saltonstall pushed his ships aground wherever he was able ; and they were burned. The sailors and soldiers took themselves to flight. Defeat was never more absolute. And the inhabitants of Belfast found themselves left at the mercy of a conquering enemy. The first care of the British was to enlarge the fortress and render it more permanent, and add to the strength of the garrison.

The inhabitants were then offered the privilege of British protection if they would merit it by an oath of allegiance and fidelity to the British king. The proposition filled them with disgust. The spirit of freedom which had for so many generations warmed the blood of their ancestors was theirs by inheritance ; and the proffer was rejected, and such intrepidity left them no choice ; to the last man they abandoned their homes, leaving their flocks in the pastures and the corn in the fields ready for harvest. Not one remained to tell a passing stranger the cause of the entire desolation that ensued.

The war filled the country with marauders, who in small parties visited the coast in search of plunder. A clan of these freebooters landed on the eastern shore of the town, near Moose Point, where it happened they were met by some patriots. They attempted to make a prisoner of Richard Stimson and were resisted. One of the marauders was killed, but Stimson escaped. On the next day a boat came from the fort on the peninsula,* and bur-

* In the progress of the revolution, General Wadsworth and Major Barton were taken prisoners in fort George and carried to Castine. They broke from the fort soon after they were confined, and by wading to their mouths for half a mile through the tide they eluded the guard and effected an escape. By a canoe they crossed the Penobscot at Prospect, and by a circuit through the deepest woodlands they arrived finally at Belfast, exhausted. At this time the Miller family had returned. Miller was their friend, but they dared not accept his hospitality at his house.—His sons, James and Robert, went into the depths of the forest, a mile from any settlement, erected a hut and covered it with the boughs of the fir tree, made a bed of evergreens, and carried blankets to it, and food for the inmates; and there these patriots were thus hid and thus fed, until the sharpness of the search for them was done, when with a pocket compass and provisions to help them on, they pursued their course across the country and arrived at a post of safety.

ned the house and barn of Samuel Houston, on the ground where his son, Joseph Houston, now resides.

After the peace many of the first settlers returned, and the town began to attract public attention. New-England, as yet, was not populous and new settlements made progress but slowly. It was not before March, 1785, that population had so much increased as to need municipal restraint and directions. Jonathan Buck, Esq. of Buckstown, was then authorized to issue a warrant for the inhabitants to assemble and choose whom they would have to serve them as municipal officers.

At this point of time may be dated the permanent settlement of Belfast. And here a topographical notice of the subject may be taken. In this immediate region the work of creation was prosecuted on the sublimest scale.

The town is situate in latitude 44 deg. 25m. 30 sec. on the west angle of the bay of Penobscot, where the river Pasagasawakeag comes into the bay. By this river the town is nearly equally divided. The bay making

round White Head, its southern angle, comes up forty miles into the country to meet the river at the town, and their confluence there forms a harbour not excelled in the world. The British navy might float in it commodiously. The town extends two miles on the west and four miles on the east side of this harbour, and Long Island and Sears' Island guard it at the entrance. On the west side and at the head of this harbour the village of Belfast is built. The bay embosoms other islands of sufficient territory for townships, and some of them are now to be numbered among the most flourishing corporations in the county. The shores of Belfast may be called beautiful. When the tide is out there is no extensive flat to disgust the eye; and the land on either side of the harbour or river rises gradually and easily for a great distance from the water. Thus the prospect is made extensive. A finer site for building a large city could not be desired. Vessels go but three miles above the town, where they have a water of eight feet.

Goose river, a small stream coming into the harbour on the east, with the surplus water of a large pond of the same name, is worthy of notice on account of the numerous opportunities it affords of applying water power to useful purposes. A large number of mills are already built upon it, and other privileges are still open.

The Penobscot river comes into the bay at the north angle, twelve miles from Belfast harbour. This noble river, for thirty miles in a direction nearly north, has a water sufficient for the safe navigation of ships of the line. Frigates have visited Bangor. Large boats and rafts find a sufficient water an hundred miles higher.

The choice arable lands in Maine it is known are not on the Atlantic border; but of all the lands upon the tide waters of New-England, it is not known that any are to be preferred to the shores of the Penobscot.

It requires the time of one life to remove the trees of a forest, and prepare the earth for cultivation. The age of Belfast therefore precludes the possibility of great advancement.

having been made in agriculture. Yet the town comprehends many good farms; and the farmer of New-England, of all men, is the most happy; his comforts are mingled with no anxiety, the continuance of them does not depend on a vigilance, both painful and unwearied.

The soil and climate are suited to the growth of wheat, barley, oats and rye; the potatoe is raised in abundance and of a fine quality; and is an essential article of food in almost every family.

In some seasons indian corn grows to great perfection, but is not a safe crop on the banks of the Penobscot. Grass is easily raised; consequently it is easy to make good butter and pork and beef; lambs in July are large and fat; stall fed mutton is excellent; wool is plenty: and hay is one article of export.

The cultivation of fruit has been by many neglected. In some instances apple orchards were set as soon as the ground was cleared of the forest; these now afford cider. In other cases where the work was commenced a succession of unpropitious summers discouraged

the planters entirely ; and in truth 1816* was nearly fatal to every thing vegetable that could be destroyed by frost. Since that year the farmer has been more flattered by the seasons, and orchards now receive a very general and skilful attention. Currants are grown in great plenty. And so are cherries, and all the small stone fruit. But the peach, it is at present considered, cannot survive a Penobscot winter. The town has been greatly negligent in planting ornamental trees ; and the performance of this pleasant duty in individual instances, only shows how much has been lost by the general inexcusable omission.

The citizens, in building their houses, have not like the citizens of some commercial villages, consulted their taste and their fancy, but have confined themselves to more economical views. The places of principal business are built of brick. The dwelling houses more generally are of wood. There is a prevail-

*Apple trees did not blossom till late in June of this year. On the tenth of that month snow fell with the wind at N. W. and the frost was quite severe. Still the crops of wheat were never better.

ing appearance of neatness and durability.—The streets in some instances are injudiciously located; but the general wish to repair the inconvenience is daily correcting the evil.—Church-street may be mentioned as a street well built, extending more than half a mile in a direct line, being four rods wide, and terminating at the south on a public square of four acres, the site of the academy. It may be called a handsome street.

On the west side of church-street, near midway of its length, in an open space of near three acres inclusive of adjacent streets, stand the new Church and the Town Hall, large and well finished buildings; the last is constructed of brick. The courts of the county of Waldo are held in the hall; and the county offices also are there kept.

The whole number of houses and stores in the town is four hundred and fifty. The first house of two floors erected in the town, is the Rev. Wm. Frothingham's: and the first house erected on Main-street was built in 1795, by Doctor John Osborn, it was raised upon the ground now covered by the Eagle Hotel.

James Nesmith commenced the business of a merchant at Nesmith's corner in 1799; and his was the first shop in the village. The east bridge thrown over the river at the village is 122 rods in length; it rests on framed wooden piers, and was erected at an expense of \$18,484. It was built in 1806. A mile above this bridge one was built in 1801 at an expense of \$6000; the last has been rebuilt. Nine commodious wharves are built for the uses of commerce. Boards and cord-wood, shingles and timber cut to dimensions, are among the articles of export. Ship-building is becoming an extensive employment. In 1818, the town was made a port of entry for an extensive district.

But Belfast had no more than a name in the hey-day of New England's peculiar commercial prosperity. From the close of the revolution to the close of the commercial warfare afterwards waged in Europe, it contained a small population. Two hundred and forty-five was the census of 1790; and in 1800, the number had increased only to 674; and the season of great profits was now rapidly coming to a close. No part of the wealth therefore

which, in so many instances, during that extraordinary period was fortuitously acquired, came to Belfast. And the town also is without some of the evils, which a sudden influx of property, that comes without judgment or labour, and before expectation, is calculated to create.—Economy as a characteristic of the people, is therefore, to be expected as the necessary result of moderate earnings.

In 1810 the number of inhabitants was 1259, and in 1820, two thousand and twenty six. The population is rapidly increasing, as well as the employment of the useful classes.*

* The village affords,

Apothecaries 3—Booksellers 2—Bookbinder 1—Butchers 3—Brick-masons 6—Brick-makers 2—Block-maker 1—Barbers 2—Clock-makers 2—Clothiers 2—Cabinet-makers 3—Chair-maker 1—Counselors and Attorneys at law 10—Candle Chandler 1—Grocers 3—Housewrights 11—House-carpenters 4—Inn-holders 5—Jeweller 1—Milliners 5—Meat shopmen 2—Meat cartman 1—Milk cartman 1—Ministers resident 3—Merchants 42—Printers 2—Painters 2—Physicians and Surgeons 6—Smiths 8—Saddle and Harness makers 3—Shoe-makers 10—Sheriff's officers 3—Shipmasters 7—Ship carpenters 15—Sail maker 1—School teachers 3—Tailors 3—Tanners and Curriers 3—Truckmen 2—Wharfingers 7—Wheel-

The civil history of the corporation is soon recited. In 1803 the town for the first time was actually represented in the state legislature.*

It has since been the privilege of the town to furnish three† senators of state, and twice a representative‡ in the congress of the United States. The judge|| of probate; a former§ and the present county solicitor** ; a former chief judge†† of common pleas ; and a former chief justice of sessions.‡‡

Mitchell had been appointed to a captaincy in militia before the commencement of the revolution. He declined exercising any authority under the king, after the war began, and no company was organized in Belfast until the colony of Massachusetts under the declaration of Independence had formed a constitution, for their own government. Samuel

wright 1. The number of inhabitants is now estimated at 3000.

* Deacon Tufts in 1778 did not take his seat. In 1803 Jonathan Wilson was the member.

† Wm. Crosby, Eben. Poor and John S. Kimball.

‡ John Wilson. || Alfred Johnson, Jr.

§ Wm. Crosby. ** Joseph Williamson.

†† Wm. Crosby. ‡‡ John Merriam.

Houston was Mitchell's successor in the office, and Telford Durham, and Benjamin Nesmith were his subalterns. Durham* had charge of the company at Castine under Lovell in 1779.

Samuel Houston, Jr. who had served during the war in Washington's guard, succeeded his father in the command of the Belfast militia. In 1803, a company of artillery was formed, and the year following a company of light horse, and in 1822 a company of light infantry. These, with two infantry companies compose the military† strength of the town.

Preparatory to the war 1812, a small fort had been erected at Castine, and in 1814 was defended by a lieutenant and a part of one

* Lieutenant Durham is in his eighty-second year, enjoys good health, and all the native energies of his mind. He speaks of the conduct of Lovell with great animation ; and refuses to accord to him both the merit of a good officer and of a true patriot. The General's management, in the mind of Mr. Durham, stands directly opposed to the one, or the other.

† Present commanders, Paul Richard Hazeltine, artillery ; David Gillman Ames, horse ; Joel Hills, light infantry ; Jonathan Towle Quimby, 1st infantry ; Benjamin Houston, 2d infantry.

regular company. On the first of September in that year, Gen. Pilkington* from the Halifax station, after reducing Eastport and Machias, arrived in the Bay of Penobscot, and finding no force to resist him, possession of the fort at Castine was immediately taken; and on the following day a detachment of about seven hundred men were landed at Belfast, under the immediate protection of a frigate and two sloops of war. The regular American troops had all left the district for the frontier of Canada; and Pilkington's strength was not to be resisted by the few companies of militia that could be brought into action. The enemy shew the utmost respect for the persons and property of the citizens; and after four days returned to Castine.

Schools for the education of youth, have been fostered by the town from the beginning with that solicitude so common for that interest throughout New England. Fourteen district schools are maintained each a portion of the year, and in the village a number of

* Bissett's England, 3d, 283.

subscription schools are constantly open. The number of children between 4 and 21 years of age, which by the law of the State are made the objects of instruction, in 1826 was 1183, as appears on the town record. The number actually schooled may be estimated to exceed one thousand. And during the summer months one hundred at least of those under four years of age enjoy the privilege of public instruction. Two Sabbath schools have been kept, in summer, for some years past; and with that happy success which so sensibly gratifies the friends of religion and virtue.

In the last year, a society called "The Infant School Society," was established. The following extracts from the constitution will discover the objects of the institution.

"The object of this society shall be to establish and constantly maintain in this village, a school on the monitorial system of instruction, for children, principally between the ages of 3 and 7 years." "It shall be one of the duties of this society, and one not to be overlooked, to furnish instruction gratis, to all children whose parents are unable to pay tuition;

and to see that they avail themselves of the privilege thus afforded them." "It shall not be necessary in order to become a member to render any pecuniary aid to the society."

This society with a zeal suited to the liberality of the principles disclosed in their constitution immediately put in operation the school they had designed. They procured an able instructor, and upwards of one hundred pupils were immediately collected and the success of the school surpasses the expectations of its warmest friends.*

Sixteen years since, the munificence of individual inhabitants, caused an edifice to be erected suitable for a public Academy. They were incorporated as a body of trust, and eighteen square miles of land in the county

* The officers of the Infant School Society, are,

David Whittier, *Chairman.*

William Poor, *Clerk.*

Daniel Lane, *Treasurer and Collector.*

Philip Morrill,

Peter Osgood,

Thomas Marshall,

William A. Drew,

William Barnes,

} *Standing Committee.*

of Washington, granted to them as an endowment. The trustees* have not met all the encouragement they could have desired; but the institution has been useful and promises to be greatly so.

The present preceptor, with the approbation of the trustees, has adopted in part, the monitorial system of instruction. The number of pupils at present is upwards of eighty. The building was not located entirely to public satisfaction. To some it seemed remote from the village. The opening of new streets has in a great measure removed this objection, and the future usefulness of the institution will unquestionably reward the efforts of its friends.

One place is, for natural causes, considered more healthy than, some other places. No opinion of Belfast here can be offered; and any opinion upon the subject is valuable, only

* The statute board of trust, embraced George Ulmer, S. A. Whitney, Alfred Johnson, Phineas Ashmun, Bohan P. Field, Thomas Whittier, James Nesmith, Nathan Read, John Wilson, Jonathan Wilson, Thaddeus Hubbard, Oliver Mann, William Mason, Mighill Blood, and Caleb B. Hall.

so far as it is formed upon facts which time alone developes. A young settlement has no character established, in this respect. Belfast has grown to that importance which may make the point a subject of enquiry ; and it should not be entirely overlooked. The climate is to be estimated. Cold and heat, rain and sun, are very unequally distributed in the same latitude ; the average temperature of atmosphere in one place is not decisive of the degree of heat or cold in another place on the same parallel. Montpelier, Vermont, and Kingston, Upper Canada, experience a greater extreme of heat and cold than is suffered at Belfast. At the falls of St. Anthony, in the Mississippi river, the heat and cold are both less in degree than they are at Belfast ; yet all these places are nearly in one line of latitude. It is not so warm or so cold, either, at Belfast, as report makes it in towns on the Kennebec river, nearly in the same latitude. Ten degrees of Farenheit, below zero, is seldom known at Belfast, and eighty-six above, is the very extreme of summer heat. If it have risen to ninety, accidental circumstances

probably operated. The greatest heat is usually before noon; about meridian a light breeze in summer usually comes up on the bay from the south, and the heat is allayed.

In other places where the mercury is raised to one hundred, the heat of the day does not reach its maximum usually until three or four of the clock in the afternoon. There is less sun at Belfast than on the high lands twenty miles westward; and fog and mist is more frequent. But the fog comes from the bay, and so great a body of tide water may have a great agency in tempering the atmosphere about it.

The township is principally opened to the sun. The soil is a blue clay mixed with loam and a coarse dark gravel. The quality of a soil by some, is most satisfactorily estimated, by noting the trees that grow upon it naturally. The maple, the birch, and the beech were the prevailing forest trees; the spruce, the hemlock, and the pine were sparingly interspersed.

The prevailing winds are from northwest and from southwest. The formation of the

river and bay favors these courses. When the wind is up, ice does not make in the bay, however cold the atmosphere may be ; but in extreme cold, attended by the accidents of a calm and a snow, which are seldom united, ice has been made in the bay so that persons have passed on foot, over a reach of twelve miles. The first instance was in the memorable winter of 1780, and the other in the winter of 1815. Rains in winter have been frequent in late years ; snow necessarily falls less frequently, and is often followed closely by rain. The changes from cold to heat and the reverse, are sudden and great, especially in the spring season. For Dec. 1826, and January and February 1827, the greatest depression of the mercury in a northern exposure, protected from the wind, was nine below zero ; and the greatest elevation, in the same time and same position, was thirty-six above. The greatest variation in one full day was twenty-four degrees. So much for the data on which to estimate climate, and the probabilities of health. Some other facts may be added from experience.

Persons born in Belfast cannot be old, the town is not old ; but many persons who were early settlers have lived to a great age.— Twenty-three persons have died in this town of a great age.*

* The names of these persons, their respective ages and the years of their deaths, are seen in the following table.

“ In their manners they exhibited a model of perfect plainness and simplicity, indicative of contentment and a cheerful disposition ; and so cordial was their reception of those who visited them, that with truth it might be said, they were given to hospitality. Their descendants read the poems of Burns’ with a keen relish, and are enthusiastic admirers of the Scottish bard.”
—*Dr. Abbot’s Ms.*

1794	James Miller, aged 82 years.
1795	John Steele, 84.
1797	William McLaughlin, 90.
1800	Margaret Cochran, 85.
1802	John Tufts, 78.
“	Grissel Jameson, 96.
1807	Solon Stevenson, 73.
1810	Mary Brown, 90.
1812	James Gordon, 86.
1815	William Lowney,* 76.
1817	Patrick Gilbert, 78.
“	John Brown, 86.
1819	Samuel Houston, 92.
1820	Jerome Stevenson, 82.
1821	Elizabeth Jones, 84.

* Mr. Lowney was graduated at Dublin College.

Thirteen persons* are now living in Belfast, whose average age is eighty-two years seven months and eleven days.

But our work is not finished. In 1802, when the population of the town did not ex-

* Their respective names and ages follow,

Samuel Cunningham 88 years old ; Wm. Cunningham, 86 ; Robert Patterson, 85 ; Jane Patterson, 77 ; John Cochran, 78, the surviving original proprietor ; Sarah West, 80 ; John Burgess, 92 ; Nathaniel Stanley, 82 ; Alexander Clark, 81 ; Elisha Clark, 81 ; Tolford Durham, 81 ; Annis Cochran, 80 ; Elizabeth Campbell, 82.

1821 Laughlin M'Donald,* aged 110 years.

1822 George Cochran, 85.

1823 John Durham, 74.

1824 James Patterson, 80.

" Jonathan Clark, 78.

" Susan Sturtevant, 84.

1826 Nathaniel Patterson, 79

" Agnes Robinson, 89.

* McDonald was born in Scotland, and entered the army while a boy ; his age is not positively ascertained. He remembered to have seen the Duke of Marlborough who died ninety-nine years before him ; he came to America in General Wolfe's army in 1759, and after Quebec was reduced, came to Bucksport, and from thence to Belfast. The lowest estimate of his age, made by his relatives, has been taken.

ceed eight hundred, there happened forty-one deaths. In 1824, fifty-seven persons died in the town, and the population was then estimated at twenty-five hundred. In 1825, seventy-six deaths occurred; and for these reasons these years are memorable. In 1802, the fever irrupting in measels, destroyed children generally, but the exact number of their deaths is not known.

In 1824 and 1825, a flux and fever with measels prevailed; in 1826 the alarm had not subsided, but the deaths were only fifty.—Children suffered 28 of the deaths of 1824, and 45 of the deaths of 1825. Philosophy will make her deductions.

The commerce of the town is at present comparatively inconsiderable. Heretofore there has been too generally entertained, an aversion to foreign adventure. The coasting trade has not been at any time retrograde, and perhaps the same may be said of the commerce called foreign; but all branches of maritime concern have felt the fluctuations that have been common to the whole country. Mr. Bradbury, of the Custom House, in-

forms, that in 1825 “ twenty-five vessels, mostly brigs, loaded at the port of Belfast, for foreign ports, nearly all for the West India Islands ; their tonnage amounted to three thousand seven hundred and forty. Their cargoes were generally the productions of the industry and soil of this and the neighboring towns. The following were some of the principal articles of export—2,168,000 feet boards and scantling—744,000 shingles—63,000 staves—20,500 feet of oars—3,390 sugar box shooks—1,736 hhd. shooks—295 spars—478 boxes soap—160 bbls. pickled fish—46 hhds. and 480 boxes dried cod-fish—261 bbls. potatoes—150 boxes candles, &c. valued at twenty-six thousand dollars.”

Of the coasting interest, no custom-house record is to be had. James McCrillis, Esq. has had charge of the east bridge for five years last in succession. By his books he discloses, that an average of two hundred vessels pass through the draw in each year. Merchants in the village may disagree in judgment, but a quarter of the vessels clearing coastwise from the town, it is believed do not

pass above the bridge. If then eight hundred cargoes coastwise in a year are now exported, the trade of the town is not behind the trade of the neighboring villages.

The first inhabitants of Belfast were christians of a straight sect. They were born and nurtured in the faith and pious forms and ceremonies, their fathers, from James 1st had received and cherished. Not more perfect however than the "pilgrims" as they increased in numbers and the means of leisure and enjoyment, they became involved in religious feuds.

In the broken traces of their proceedings leading to the purchase of the township, it is to be discovered that they kept a steady eye upon the object of a distinct provision for the church. Their solicitude was so apparent, and seemed so commendable, to the grantors themselves, that they included in the grant one hundred and fifty acres, above the quantity purchased, "for the use of the ministry."* In the first summer of their coming to their es-

* Chadwick's minutes.

tates, and when no more than five families had arrived, Mr. Murray, then of Boothbay, was induced to make them a visit, and in the language of the time, give them a sabbath, and administer to them the consolations of his office.

In each succeeding year, to the time of their dispersion by the British army, this little flock made liberal provision for religious instruction. If teachers were not always had, no effort was spared on the part of the society to obtain them. Nevertheless all was not perfect. Some members it seems were not conformed to duty in some things. To the more cautious and heedful this made occasion for offences; and in Oct. 1775, the attention of the whole corporation is called to the subject of the observance of the sabbath, in an article annexed to a warrant for holding a town meeting; and a vote was taken, and is recorded, that whoever shall make an unnecessary visit on the sabbath, shall be held in contempt by the people until atonement shall be made by a public confession. When the peace of seventeen hundred eighty three permitted them to return to their

homes they brought with them the same warm zeal for the church. Not now content with liberal appropriations for the support of the gospel, in 1789 a vigorous attempt was made to erect a house for public worship.

Those, and all those, then westward of the river, although a small minority were opposed to erecting a house on the eastern side of the harbour ; and formally protested against it, the subject was postponed. Three years afterwards a proposition for each section to build a house for themselves, without charge to the other, met with no opposition.

The house now to be seen on the east side of the river, was accordingly built, and also that house now so commodiously repaired, and by the Baptist society occupied in the village. The Baptists purchased the house in 1822, and removed it to the place where it now stands.

Until 1796, the man, among the many persons, who had appeared as candidates, whom the citizens preferred as a religious guide had not been found. In this year the Rev. Ebenezer Price conciliated the esteem of a major-

ity, and against the remonstrance of 24 members of the society, who represented in a formal manner their objections, pledging themselves to each other and to the town to withhold all aid to his support, and to resist to the last any tax that might be assessed, for the accomplishment and maintainance of the object, Mr. Price was ordained.

In the following year twenty of those non-contents remonstrated with the majority of the town against the vote, to confirm the title of Mr. Price to the lot of land before appropriated to the first settled minister. This remonstrance being disregarded served no other purpose than to embitter the sentiments of an opposition already exasperated. The minority did not permit themselves to slumber. Solon Stevenson a man, memorable for his sincerity of heart, sound judgment and constancy of purpose, and twenty two others with him, carried the subject before the Legislature, and as a relief, they pray to be incorporated as a separate religious society. Here also the friends of Mr. Price procured a majority, and the prayer of the petitioners was refused to

be granted. The opposition remained undismayed. New subjects of complaint were found, true or false, and old ones urged with new zeal ; so that in April 1801, the town voted to withhold from Mr. Price his salary, and also that as a teacher of religion, they had for him no further employment.

In May 1802 the civil contract between Mr. Price and the town was closed by a compromise. And Mr. Price received a liberal compensation for his labors.

The town still continued to make annual appropriations of money for the support of religious instruction ; and in 1805 the Rev. Alfred Johnson passed a season with them, at the close of which, the town, five members only dissenting, offered Mr. Johnson a salary of 700 dollars per annum to become their minister.

The invitation was accepted and Mr. Johnson was duly installed. The strife of the church, for a season, was hushed. The town was now making considerable acquisitions in population, by emigration ; among whom many Baptists were to be found. So numerous

had that class of christians become by 1809, that it was deemed by them expedient to be made a corporate body. This stirred the embers of the fire that had been covered since Mr. Price was dismissed.

Some professed to believe that religious instruction could not be good if bought with money; and the town was now much indebted to Mr. Johnson. Those who should become Baptists, expected probably, to free themselves from this inconvenience; and when interest and religious impression coincide, there is not much doubt of perseverance. Mr. Johnson in a letter to the assessors on the fifth of January, 1809, exempted from any additional taxation, persons who should continue to fulfil their contract with him; assuming himself to sustain the loss of that portion of his salary which the seceders had they remained faithful, would have been required to pay. Yet the Baptist society increased daily, and in 1811 was incorporated.

Mr. Johnson's partial relinquishment of salary was not entirely satisfactory, and in 1812 Mr. Johnson relinquished it entirely during

the war with England then commenced.— Two years later, Mr. Johnson dissolved his connection with the parish.

The population of the village was increasing, and in 1818, it was thought a house of worship was wanted within it.

Before the time now spoken of, the Rev. Wm. Frothingham had been made acquainted with the parish. The attendance of the people at religious exercises had become an agreeable performance of duty. All were desirous to become interested in the erection of a building that should afford them a suitable accommodation. Under these commendable feelings the house on Church-street was built. The work was originated, prosecuted and finished in great harmony, and is, and will be a strong bond of religious connection. On the 15th of Nov. 1818, the house was opened and dedicated; on the 21st day of the following July Mr. Frothingham was installed.

A majority of the early church, having found occasion of disagreement with Mr. Frothingham, relative to certain subjects of christian faith, refused their assistance at his

installation, and a new church was organized.

The early church resolutely maintained their distinctions, and their countenance of Mr. Frothingham being withheld, they continued to be a society separate from the parish. This society has built a house for worship; and have enjoyed the privileges of an ordained minister; but are now without a pastor.

The society of Baptists, has continued to prosper, and is at present supplied with a teacher, the Rev. Charles Hooper.

The society of Methodists is also a large and devotional congregation; have built for themselves a house; and in the manner prescribed by that denomination of christians, this branch of the great Methodist family, is continually supplied with instructors, who are anxious for the safety of man.

The fifth and last religious association is that denominated Universalists. For two years past they were taught from scripture by Mr. Drew. They now have no teacher.

Thus under the salutary influence of entire freedom of thought and opinion, in what is alone personal, five different forms of christian

worship are seen to be peaceably and profitably instituted in the bosom of a little community, composed of three thousand people.

JOHN MITCHELL.

John Mitchell did not return to Belfast, to become a resident, after the war of the revolution; but as he was so greatly active and efficient in acquiring the grant, and effecting the first settlement of the town, its history requires that some notice of him should be taken.

He was born in 1714, in the town of Londonderry, Ireland; and, when his parents, who were of the Ulster emigrants to Londonderry, New-Hampshire, came to America, was five years of age. He served an apprenticeship to a housewright; but he soon forsook that employment, and became a well

known practical surveyor, and a teacher of the higher branches of mathematics.

Barnard, Governor of Massachusetts, appointed him to superintend a survey of the Scoodic river, and the bay of Passamaquoddy. In 1764 and 1765 this service was performed to the entire satisfaction of the Governor, who, having heard Mitchell's report of the expedition, and of the inducements the country offered to emigrants, became greatly desirous of obtaining a grant of land south of that bay and river; and Mitchell it appears, had inspired Barnard with a confidence, which disposed him to make the former a partner in interest.

It was on his passage from Boston to Scoodic, that Mitchell put into Penobscot bay, and became informed of the natural advantages which those might enjoy who would there establish a settlement. This knowledge he carried to his friends in Londonderry, New-Hampshire, and it has been seen, that his opinions were respected. But the settlement of Belfast was postponed to the prosecution of the scheme of Gov. Barnard. Many ob-

stacles were found in the way of their success. Since the charter of 1692 from the crown to Massachusetts, neither the crown, nor the general court of the colony, deemed themselves to be endowed with the requisite powers separately to make a valid grant of land in Acadia; and a concurrent act of cession, by the two authorities, at this period of feverish jealousy, was not to be expected.— It was therefore proposed to treat for a title with the province of Nova Scotia. A stipulation was accordingly entered into with that government for a tract of 100,000 acres, and Morris, the provincial surveyor, set 'off that quantity by measure, to Francis Barnard,* Thomas Pownall, John Mitchell, Thomas Thornton, and Richard Jackson. The Scoodic river northerly, and the Cobescook, or Denny's river, southerly, were made the boundaries of the patent. At this time, Morris marked the Cobescook as the St. Croix, which circumstance, gave rise in all proba-

* A copy of Morris' map is in the possession of the author.

bility, to the perplexity which afterwards attended the adjustment, by the English and American governments, of the eastern boundary of the States.

When the war of the revolution opened, no settlement, by the patentees, had been made within their territory; and the treaty following the peace, placed the grant within the State of Massachusetts; and, Mitchell being the only grantee remaining, neglected to obtain, or to attempt to obtain, from Massachusetts, a confirmation of his title.

In the mean time, as has been seen, however, the purchase and settlement of Belfast had been effected. Mitchell was foremost in the enterprise; and with great cost of workmen and materials from Boston, built a saw mill on the Westcot brook, before a house had been erected in the town. To his management the proprietors entrusted their concerns; and he kept the records after the town was incorporated. Of his six sons, five went early into the war, in the service of the colonies; four of them went, not to return.—Robert only, after the peace, being released

from prison in Europe, where he had been for a long time confined, returned to his family. John first served with McNeal as a sailing master, afterwards with Manly as lieutenant. George was a midshipman. Samuel and Joshua were seamen.

After the defeat suffered by Lovell, Mitchell lost no time in removing himself beyond the reach of British authority. In the night following that disaster, he put what of his effects he was able so to manage, into a gondola, and with his family, and such others as chose to share his fortunes, coasted down the bay to a cove in Thomaston; where they landed, and crossed over the peninsula to fort George; and afterwards proceeded to New-Hampshire, where he resided until his death in 1801. His age was eighty-seven years.



MISCELLANY.

There is a general impression among the people, that the trade of the town, has been in a decline, for the last two or three years. Taking the fact as granted, they are at no loss to find a cause for this change, but it seems all have not charged it upon the same circumstances.

One finds sufficient reason, for a diminution in business, in the scarcity of money ; and attributes this scarcity of circulating capital, to the management of the monied institutions of Boston. Another, says that trade is decaying in most other places in the Union, and that nothing but the universal peace that has been so happily maintained, for so long a time, could produce an effect, at once, so uniform and extensive. The mass of retail trade in the

American sea ports, it is conceded, has been much diminished, by the almost entire suspension of commerce with England. But the town of Belfast has not, at any time, maintained that intimate connection, with British commerce ; nor been brought into that collision with the Boston Banks, that the suspension of the one, or the rigid exactions of justice in the other, could produce a general sensation. If trade be falling away, the accident is chargeable to other causes.

Belfast is situate, in the midst of a country that has, continually, and steadily, though not rapidly, grown in population. The people collectively, from year to year have considerably increased the mass of means for their support and their comfort ; and with this people, increasing in numbers, and improving in estate, the principal traffick of the town is maintained. Neither the peace, nor the want of British commerce, nor the Boston Bank management, supplies the necessities of these people ; and still they are supplied—they are as well fed, and better clothed than formerly. How then has trade, in the aggregate, diminished?

That trade has fallen into many more hands, than controled it in time past, is very true. And that many modern traders are neither serving themselves, nor the public beneficially is true also ; but still it remains to be proved that the amount of business is decreased.

It is believed, however, that the *open* trade of the country does not grow, in equal degree, with the population. The experiment, which the Legislature has been trying, for the benefit of "poor debtors," has operated to put a portion of trade *under cover*. How the honest poor are ultimately to be affected by the experiment, can only be ascertained by the trial. They, at present, are utterly without credit—for the reason that they are raised above all personal responsibility. The statutes, having placed it at their option, to pay, have done them the infinite mischief, of robbing them of of all their ambition to make an effort. These persons, deserving confidence, and who, under the policy of the past time, found it reposed in them, are now entirely excluded from the books of the professed trader. But in every neighborhood, some individual of

credit for money, is found; and one too, who is ready to stand between his poor neighbor and his necessities, upon stipulated terms. By pledging his own credit, he procures for his neighbor the supply of his wants, at a price enhanced by an intermediate profit. Whether this system will make slaves of the honest poor, the experiment alone can test. That it will build up a few individuals in each town, with the sweat and the labor of the poor is already more than probable. Yet no one can doubt that the best interests of the poor were supposed to be consulted, in adopting the legislation, that leads to these results.

A single glance at the future may here be admissible. In estimating the chances of Belfast to take precedence, at some future day, of the other towns upon the Penobscot, there is wide room for difference of opinion. The subject presents itself to different persons in very different aspects. Partiality insensibly operates with some, and the want of a knowledge of the whole ground, is a source of error in others. And none may presume to pronounce a final opinion without hesitation.

It is doubted perhaps by no one, that some town on the Penobscot waters, by common consent, will ere long become the principal mart upon these waters—Camden, Belfast, Prospect, Frankfort, and Bangor, have each had their pretensions to this distinction. We will consider them according to the information we have obtained,—after premising that two circumstances, must be kept in view—a common centre and a good harbor. Camden has the advantage of being nearest to sea, but consequently is removed from the centre ; and the town environed by hills which forbid easy roads to reach it from the interior. The site of the town is a pleasant one ; the harbour is small, and not easy of access. Bangor has claims to great consideration. It stands at the head of summer navigation, about fifty miles above Camden. The river is safely navigated to Bangor, and will shortly be settled to its sources ; but the ice in the river suspends navigation four months in the year, and time will produce as many clusters of houses and stores as there may be found mill seats on the river. Frankfort, at the head of winter navigation,

might be considered as the natural rival to Bangor, but the map shows its location, in relation to the interior, to be unfavorable, calculating that trade is to come principally from the north and the west, both Frankfort and Prospect, are in some respect, insulated; and the formation of the country makes the approach to them any thing but easy and direct. And if at no time the ice below Frankfort is impenetrable it is often found to be greatly embarrassing and injurious to navigation.—Belfast holds the intermediate ground among the aspirants. Within the knowledge of man, its harbour has been twice only seriously blockaded by ice, (1780, and 1815,) in that respect therefore it is greatly more eligible than the harbor of Portland or Boston, being at all times as accessible as either of them, and when entered, is found more commodious and safe. In the discussion of this subject it is not remembered, if the strongest argument in its support have ever been urged. Belfast is the natural seaport of the northern and western Kennebeck; and it is no strength of fancy to imagine that nature once thought of

bringing that river to the ocean at this place. From Winslow to Belfast the distance is twenty-eight miles over a champaign country. It is more than two thirds the same distance from Winslow to Hallowell. Four months of the year, the difference in the cost of transportation between Winslow and these towns would not be material. By taking an early, and employing a late hour, horses will perform the journey to Belfast and return the same day.

But the difference in distance is more than compensated by difference in market. The one is open to the world ; from the other all competition is excluded by ice. This circumstance in winter operates as a tax of a whole tithe upon the farmer who shall frequent the Hallowell market. But the winter is the farmers market season. He cannot wait for the ice to disappear that he may transport his products by boat to Hallowell ; when that time arrives he is employed in preparing to raise another crop. In fine, Belfast is forty miles up into the heart of a country as suitable for agriculture as any portion of New-England, and is the centre of Maine. With

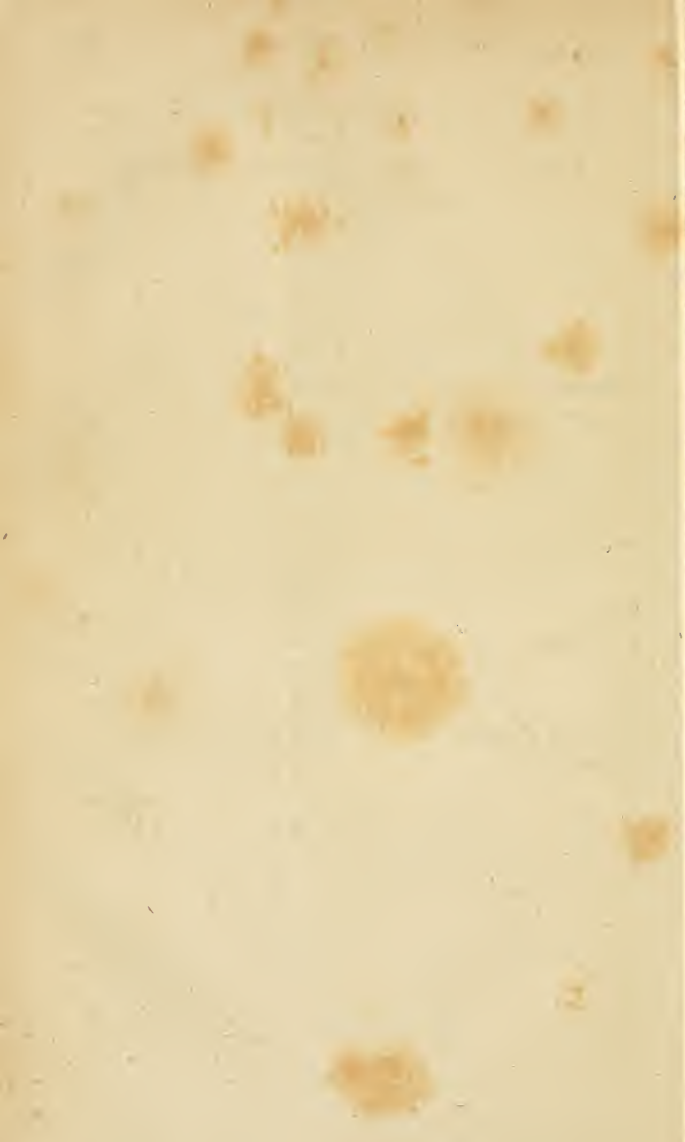
capital and enterprize at any moment she may take the trade of the vale of the Kennebeck with mutual profit. The remotest angle of the county of Somerset is nearer to Belfast than to Portland. And if by many the idea may be reckoned among the chimeras of the day—yet it must be admitted as possible that Belfast one day shall have become the largest town in the State. One thing is already certain, that many circumstances, powerful as nature can make them, are now conspiring to bring to pass, if possible, that event.

The County of Waldo, of which Belfast is the court town, is constituted of twenty-three towns and two plantations.

The following is a list of them, with the census of 1820 ; and also that of 1810, so far as it was taken is annexed.

<i>Towns.</i>	<i>Census of 1820.</i>	<i>Census 1810.</i>
Belfast	2026	1274
Belmont	713	—
Brooks	318	—

Burnham	202	—
Camden	1825	1607
Frankfort	2127	1493
Freedom	788	—
Hope	1179	787
Islesboro'	639	583
Jackson	375	—
Knox	560	—
Lincolnville	1294	1013
Liberty	409	—
Monroe	630	—
Montville	1266	864
Northport	939	780
Palermo	1056	761
Prospect	1771	1300
Searsmont	675	—
Swanville	503	—
Thorndike	438	—
Troy	505	—
Unity	978	793
Appleton Plantation	511	—
Waldo	245	—
	<hr/> 22002	<hr/> 11255



APPENDIX.

[No. 1.]

The author is indebted to his friend, GEORGE WATSON, Esq. for the following accurate, and only perfect translation of the Patent to De Monts that has been made. Some of the language of the original, has become obsolete ; in other instances it is technical.—Mr. Watson has overcome all these embarrassments, and whoever will compare this version with that published in London in 1654, can have no hesitation in determining, to which of them, the preference should be given.

LETTERS PATENT for the Sieur de Monts, lieutenant-general of Acadia, and the adjoining countries ; November 8, 1603.

HENRY, by the grace of God, king of France, and Navarre,—to our dear and well beloved the Sieur de Monts, gentleman in ordinary of our bed-chamber, greeting.

As our greatest care and labor, since our accession to this crown, is, and always has been, to maintain and preserve it in its ancient dignity, greatness, and splendor ; and to extend, and enlarge, as far as lawfully may be

done, its boundaries and limits: We, being of a long time informed of the situation, and condition of the countries and territory of Acadia; moved, above all things, by a peculiar zeal, and a devout and firm resolution, which we have taken, with the aid and assistance of God, the author, distributor, and protector of all kingdoms and states,—to cause to be converted, brought over, and instructed in christianity, and in the belief and profession of our faith and religion, the people who inhabit that country, at present a barbarous race,—atheists, without faith or religion; and to draw them from the ignorance and infidelity in which they now are. Having also for a long time understood, by the reports of masters of vessels, pilots, merchants, and others, who a long time ago visited, frequented and traded with the people of those parts, how profitable, convenient and useful would be to us, our states and subjects, the residence, possession and settlement of those places, by the great and apparent profit which may be drawn from the great frequency and connection with the people there; and the trade and commerce, which by these means may be safely entered into, and carried on: We, for these causes fully confiding in your great prudence, and in

the knowledge and experience which you have of the quality, condition, and situation of Acadia,—from the divers voyages, travels, and repeated visits which you have made in those parts, and others near thereto,—assuring ourselves that this our resolution and intention being to you committed, you will know how to execute it attentively, diligently, and not less courageously and valorously, and bring it to the perfection we desire ;—we have expressly appointed, and established,—and by these presents, signed by our own hand,—we do appoint, ordain, make, constitute, and establish you our lieutenant-general to represent our person in the country, territory, coasts and confines of Acadia : beginning at the fortieth degree, to the fort-sixth degree [*of north latitude*] ; and within the said extent, or part thereof, as far inland as may be done, to establish, extend, and cause to be made known, our name, power, and authority ; and unto the same, to subject, cause to submit, and to obey, all the people of the said land and parts adjacent and by the means thereof, and by all other lawful ways and means, to call upon, instruct, urge and excite them to the knowledge of God, and to the light of the faith, and the christian religion ; —to establish it there,—and in the exercise

and profession thereof, to maintain, keep and preserve the said people, and all others inhabiting the said places ; and in peace, repose, and tranquillity, to command there, as well by sea as by land ; to ordain, decide, and cause to be executed all that you will judge necessary, and be able to do, to maintain, keep, and preserve the said places under our power and authority,—by the forms, ways and means prescribed by our ordinances ; And to aid and assist you in the premises,—to appoint establish and constitute all needful officers, as well in concerns of war, as of justice and policy,—in the first instance,—and from thence afterward to be nominated by you, and presented to us for our approbation and confirmation,—and to give such commissions, titles and grants as may be necessary.

And as circumstances may require yourself, with the advice of prudent and capable men, to prescribe, under our good pleasure, laws, statutes and ordinances, (as conformable to ours as may be) especially in such matters and things as are not provided for by these presents ;—effectually to negotiate treaties of peace, alliance and confederation, good friendship, correspondence and communication with the said people, and their princes, and others having power and command over them ;—to

maintain, keep, and carefully observe the treaties and alliances which you shall enter into with them:—provided they do the same on their part; and in default thereof to make open war, to compel them, and bring them back to such reason as you shall judge necessary, for the honor obedience and service of God,—and the establishing, maintaining and preserving our authority among them; at least to visit and frequent there by yourself and by all our subjects, in all safety liberty, intercourse and communication; to negotiate and trade there amicably and peaceably; to give and grant them favors and privileges, employments and honors.

Which said entire authority, we will, and ordain that you have over all our said subjects, and others who may go to inhabit, trade, negotiate and reside in those parts;—to hold, take, reserve and appropriate to yourself what you may wish and find to be most suitable to your rank, quality and use;—to parcel out such parts and portions of the said lands,—to attribute to them such titles, honors, rights, authorities and faculties as you will see needful, according to the quality, condition and merits of the persons of the country and others; above all things to people, cultivate and cause to be settled the said lands, as speedily,

carefully and skillfully, time, places and conveniences will permit, and for this purpose to make, or cause to be made, such discovery and knowledge of the extent of the sea coasts, and other countries of the main land, as you will direct and prescribe to be done within the said fortieth and forty-sixth degrees; or otherwise as far as may be, along the said coasts and in the main land;—to search after and carefully find out, all mines of gold and silver, copper and other metals and minerals; to cause them to be wrought, purified and refined, to be converted into use; and (as we have prescribed by the edicts and regulations which we have made in our kingdom) to dispose of the profits and emoluments thereof, by yourself, or by those you shall authorize for this purpose; only reserving to us the tenth part of the proceeds of the gold, silver and copper; taking to yourself our portion of the other metals and minerals, towards relieving you in the great expences which the above said charge will occasion you.

In the mean time desiring your safety and convenience, and that of all those of our subjects who shall go to inhabit and trade in the said places,—as, also, generally all others who shall place themselves there under our power and authority,—we authorize you to build

and to construct one, or more forts, fortified places, cities and all other houses, dwellings and habitations, ports, havens, retiring places and quarters, as you shall judge proper, useful and necessary in the execution of the said enterprize ; to establish garrisons, and soldiers to keep them.

And to enable you to do this more effectually, you may take with you and employ the vagrant, idle and dissolute persons, as well from the cities as from the country,—and also those condemned to perpetual banishment, or for three years at least, beyond our realm ;—provided this be done by the advice, consent and authority of our officers.

Besides the before mentioned (and what is otherwise prescribed and ordered by the commissions and authorities given you by our dear cousin the *Sieur Damville*,* admiral of France, in what relates to the charge of the admiralty, in the achievement, expedition and execution of the above said things) to do generally for the conquest, peopling, settlement and

*In the French copy, in Hazard's Collection of State papers it is *Sieur D'Anville*—and in other copies *Am-puille* ; both which appear to be erroneous, as Charles Montmorenci Duc de *Damville*, was, at that time, Admiral of France.

Translator.

preservation of the said land of Acadia, the circumjacent territories, their appertenance and dependancies under our name and authority, as we ourselves could do if we were there present in person, even in cases requiring more special direction than we have given in these presents;—To the contents of which we command, order and very expressly enjoin all our judges, officers and subjects to conform themselves, to obey you, and give attention to you in all and each of the abovesaid things, their circumstances and dependancies. Also to afford you in the execution thereof all the comfort, aid and assistance of which you may have need and be by you required.—all under the pain and penalty of rebellion and disobedience.

And in order that no person may pretend ignorance of this our intention and thereby wish to interfere in whole, or in part with the charge, dignity and authority which we have given you by these presents; we have, of our certain knowledge, full power and royal authority, revoked, suppressed and declared null and of no effect, hereafter and from the present time,—all other powers and commissions, letters and dispatches given and delivered to any person whomsoever to discover, and inhabit within the above said limits of the

people aforesaid lands, situated between the said fortieth and forty-sixth degree, whatsoever they may be.

Moreover, we direct and order all our said officers of whatever quality or condition they may be,—that these presents, (or the certification thereof duly made by one of our beloved and faithful counsellors, notaries and secretaries,—or by other royal Notary,) they, the said officers, at your request, application or suit, or that of our attornies,—cause to be read, published and registered in the registers of their respective jurisdictions, authorities and districts ; preventing as much as belongs to them to do, all trouble and hindrance contrary hereunto ; for such is our pleasure. Given at Fontainebleau, the eighth day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand, six hundred and three,—and of our reign the fifteenth.

[Signed]

HENRY.

By the King—POTIER.

NOTE. This peculiar and interesting document was first published in Paris in 1609, in the *Histoire de Nouvelle France*, by Marc Lescarbot ; and the English translation, by Erondelles, was published in London in 1654.

[No. 2.]

To all to whom these presentes shall come greetinge Knowe yee that the counsell established att Plimouth in the countie of Devon for the plantinge rulinge orderinge and governinge of New-Englande in America for divers good causes and considerations them thereunto especially moovinge Have given granted bargained soulded enffeeffed allotted and set over and by these presentes doe hereby and absolutely give grannte bargain sell alien enffeeffe allott assigne and confirme unto John Beauchamp of London gent. and Thomas Leverett of Boston in the countie of Lincolne gent. their heires associats and assignes—All and singular those Lands Tenements and hereditaments whatsoever with thappurtenances thereof in New-Englande aforesaide which are situate lyinge and beinge within or betweene a place there commonly called or knowne by the name of Muscongus towards the south or southwest and a straight line extendinge from thence tenn leagues up into the maine Lande and continent there towards the greate sea commonly called the South Sea and the utmost limitts of the space of tenn Leagues on the north and north-easte of a river in New-Englande aforesaid commonly call-

ed Penobscott towards the north and north-easte and the greate Sea commonly called the westernne ocean towards the easte and a straight line extendinge from the most westernne parte and pointe of the said straight line which extendes from Muscongeus aforesaid towards the South sea to the uttermost northerne limite of the said ten leagues on the north side of the said river of Penobscott towards the weste — And all Landes groundes woods soiles divers waters fishings hereditaments proffitts commodities privileges ffranchises and emoluments whatsoever situated lyinge and beinge ariseinge and happeninge or renneinge or shall arise happen or renne within the limites and boundes aforesaide or any of them togeather with all Islandes that lie and be within the space of three miles of the said Lands or premisses or any of them

To have and to holde all and singular the said landes tenements and hereditaments and premisses whatsoever with thappurtenances and every parte and parcell thereof unto the said John Beauchamp and Thomas Leverett their heires associatts and assignes forever to the only proper and absolute use and behoofe of the said John Beauchamp and Thomas Leverett their heires associatts and assignes forever more To be holden of the Kinges most

excellent. Ma. tie. his heires and successors as of his mannor. of East-Greenwich by fealtie and not in capite nor by Knigtes service yeelding and payinge unto his ma. tie. his heires and successors the ffifte parte of all such share of gold and silver as shall be gotten and obtained in or uppon the premisses or any parte thereof In Witness whereof the said counsell established att Plimouth in the countie of Devon for the plantinge rulinge orderinge and governinge of New-Englande in America have hereunto putt their common seal the thirteenth day of march in the ffifte year of the raigne of our Soveraign Lord—Charles by the grace of God King of Englande Scotlande ffrance, and Irelande defender of the faithe &c. &c—Anno Domini 1629

[Seal] WARWICKE

[No. 3.]

The ancient limits of Acadia are thus described in the treaty of St. Germain. “Extending on the west towards New-England by the river Penobscot or Pentagoet, that is to

say, beginning at its mouth and from thence drawing a right line on the north side as far as the river St. Lawrence, or the great river of Canada, on the north by the said river St. Lawrence along its southern shore as far as Cape Rosiers, situate at its entrance; its eastern limits extend through the gulf of St. Lawrence, from said Cape Rosiers on the south east side by the Islands of Baccalaos, or Cape Breton, leaving these Islands to the right and the gulf of St. Lawrence and Newfoundland, with the Islands thereto belonging to the left, as far as the cape or promontory called Cape Breton; and its southern limits extend through the great Atlantic Ocean, drawing a line on the southwest side from the said Cape Breton through Cape Sable, comprehending the island of the same name in the entrance of the Bay of Fundy, which rises on the east side within the country, as far as the mouth of said river Penobscot or Pentagoet.*” The French claimed however to Sagadahoc, which is the Androscogin.†

* Intercepted French papers translated and published, New-York, 1759. Smollett's England, vol. 2, page 120.

† Turner's map of Nova Scotia.

[No. 4.]—See page 19.

“Boston in New England, 20th October, 1654.

May it please this honored court,

Providence having soe disposed it as to bring the province of Acadia under the power and government of his highness Oliver, lord protector of England, Scotland and Ireland, we well knowing what greate respect you owe unto the state of England, and not doubting of your readiness in any thing you can to manifest the same to them, are, therefore encouraged to make these few propositions in the name of his highness and the state of England.

1. That you would be pleased to declare that if the English inhabiting in the country of Acadia be at any time assaulted with an enemy, or in any occasion of needing helpe from this government, you will assist us with such men as we may stand in neede of we paying for them according to the custom of paying soldiers in this country in any service you employ them in.

2. That as its well knowne, that at present there is noe wayes to maintaine the vast expence of the garrison but by trade with the salvages, as its now a settled law in that province that not any should trade with them but

such as are deputed by those in authority in that province, that accordingly you would assent and consent that law and order, soe as when any shall be convicted of the breach thereof they may suffer as if they had been taken in the province of Acadia.

Many reasons we might give and shall if desired, why there might be a compliance with us in this our request but we hope that respect and compliance with England will be argument enough to admit this favour, in which we hope we attend much the good of these plantations, and be confident you shall find us readie to our power to serve you either here or in any place God shall caste us in, and remain your humble servants.

(Signed,) ROBERT SEDGWICK.
JOHN LEVERETT.
WM. HATHORNE.
ROBERT FEARM.
MARK HARRISON.
ROBERT MARSTIN.*

* State papers, printed by T. & J. Fleet: Boston, 1769, page 254.

* *Hatchinson papers*—



REGISTER.

*A register of the Legislative Officers, within the County
of Waldo for the political year 1827.*

COUNSELLORS.

SAMUEL WHITNEY, *of Brooks.*

JONATHAN THAYER, *of Camden.*

SENATOR.

JOHN S. KIMBALL, *of Belfast.*

REPRESENTATIVES.

Belfast—Ralph C. Johnson.

Burnham, &c.—Martin Edmonds.

Camden—Ephraim Wood.

Frankfort—Thomas Snow.

Hope, &c.—James Weed.

Knox, &c.—James Lamson.

Lincolntonville, &c.—Samuel A. Whitney.

Monroe, &c.—Hosea Emery.

Montville, &c.—Joseph Gowen.

Northport, &c.—David Alden, Jr.

Prospect—Ephraim K. Smart.

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COUNTY REGISTER.

As the COUNTY OF WALDO is composed of a portion of Hancock, Lincoln and Kennebeck, its register can be found only in detached parts—and these parts need some correction. These considerations have raised a belief, that a register of the county could not fail to be acceptable ; and it has been prepared accordingly, and many errors that occur in the State register are here corrected.

COURT OF SESSIONS.

Bohan P. Field, of Belfast, *Chief Justice.*

Joseph Shaw, Thorndike, } *Associate Jus-*
Thomas Eastman, Palermo, } *tices.*

Committee on Roads.

Paul H. Stevens, *Lincolnville.*

Stephen Ide, *Frankfort.*

Philip Greely, *Knox.*

Judge of Probate—Alfred Johnson, Jun. *Belfast.*

Register of Probate—Nath'l M. Lowney, *Frankfort.*

Register of Deeds—(not yet chosen.)

County Treasurer—do.

Clerk of the Courts—Hugh J. Anderson, *Belfast.*

County Attorney—Joseph Williamson, *Belfast.*

APPOINTED TO QUALIFY CIVIL OFFICERS.

- Belfast*—Alfred Johnson, Jun. ; Daniel Lane.
Brooks—Samuel Whitney.
Camden—Jonathan Thayer.
Frankfort—Alexander Milliken ; Joshua Hall.
Lincolntown—Ephraim Fletcher ; Nath'l Milliken.
Munroe—Azariah Edwards.
Montville—Joseph Chandler ; Joseph Gowen.
Palermo—Moses Burley ; Thomas Eastman.
Swanville—Ebenezer Williams.
Unity—Rufus Burnham.
-

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE AND QUORUM.

- Belfast*—Bohan P. Field ; Wm. Crosby ; John Wilson ;
 John Merriam ; Alfred Johnson, Jr. ; Daniel
 Lane ; Joseph Williamson ; John S. Kimball.
Brooks—Phineas Ashmun.
Camden—William Parkman ; Jonathan Thayer ; Ben-
 jamin Cushing.
Frankfort—Joshua Hall
Lincolntown—Ephraim Fletcher ; Nathaniel Milliken.
Montville—Joseph Chandler ; Joseph Gowen ; Ebene-
 zer Everett.
Northport—David Alden.
Palermo—Thomas Eastman ; Eli Ayer.
Searsmont—Harry Hazeltine.
Swanville—Ebenezer Williams.
Unity—Rufus Burnham.
-

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 Hayford ; William Moody ; Asa Edmunds ; Manasseh

Sleeper ; Ralph C. Johnson ; James M'Crillis ; William White ; Joseph Eayres ; Rufus B. Allyn ; James White ; Peter Rowe ; S. W. Eells ; John Brown ; James Poor ; Nath'l H. Bradbury ; John Clark ; Hugh J. Anderson.

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Brooks—Samuel Whitney ; William Huxford ; Joshua Perry ; Jacob Roberts ; Thomas Sawyer ; Luther Fogg.

Burnham—Ebenezer Williams ; Martin Edmonds.

Camden—Samuel Jacobs ; Job Ingraham, Jun. ; Richard Wilson ; Jesse Cushing ; Ephraim Wood ; David Tolman ; Robert Chase ; Daniel Packard ; Edward Haniford ; Charles R. Porter ; Stephen Barrows ; William Carlton.

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Freedom—William Sibley ; Peter Ayer ; Ithamar Bellows ; Nathan W. Chase ; Matthew Randall ; Robert Thompson ; Jason Wood ; Daniel Ricker.

Hope—Fergus McLane ; Matthew Beveridge ; Almond Gushée ; Wade Sweetland ; Micah Hobbs ; Thaddeus Hastings ; Frye Hall ; Boyce Crane ; Robert Jacobs ; William Battie ; James Weed.

Islesborough—Josiah Farrow.

Jackson—Bordman Johnson ; Thomas Morton ; Ezra Abbot ; Silas Warren ; Isaac Abbot ; Timothy Thorndike.

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Liberty—Jonathan Fogg.

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Montrville.—Timothy Copp ; Cyrus Davis ; Nathaniel Emery ; Moses True ; Richard Small ; Sam'l Atkinson ; Robie Lrye.

Northport.—Jones Shaw ; Phineas Billings ; Henry Brown ; Jonathan Holbrook ; Patrick Mahoney ; David Alden, Jun.

Palermo.—Moses Burley ; Christopher Erskine ; Samuel Buffum ; Elijah Grant ; Jonathan Greely.

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Swanville.—James Leach ; Ebenezer Williams, jr. ; Samuel Eames.

Thorndike.—Joseph Shaw ; Joseph Blethen ; Josiah Moulton ; Peter Harmon ; Thomas Holbrook.

Troy.—James Parker ; Dennis Fairbanks , Charles Hillman ; Hanson Whitehouse.

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Waldo Plantation.—Henry Davidson ; Hall Clements.

Notaries Public.

BELFAST.—*Alfred Johnson, jr. ; Manasseh Sleeper.*

CAMDEN.—*Jonathan Thayer.*

FRANKFORT.—*Archibald Jones.*

LINCOLNVILLE.—*Samuel D. Reed.*

Counsellors at Law.

BELFAST.—*Bohan P. Field ; William Crosby ; John Wilson ; William White ; Alfred Johnson, jr. ; Joseph Williamson ; R. B. Allyn ; James White.*

BROOKS.—*Phineas Ashmun.*

CAMDEN.—*Jonathan Thayer ; Charles R. Porter.*

FRANKFORT.—*Archibald Jones.*

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BELFAST — *William Stevens ; Hiram O. Alden.*

FRANKFORT.—*Nathaniel M. Lowney ; Albert L. Kelley.*

MONTVILLE.—*John Emerson.*

Sheriff.

CAMDEN.—*Joseph Hall.*

*Deputy Sheriffs.**Coroners.*

BELFAST.—Joseph Houston ; Stephen Longfellow.

BROOKS.—Joseph Freeman.

CAMDEN.—Ephraim Wood ; Alden Bass.

FRANKFORT.—Daniel Toby ; Tisdale Deane ; Henry H. Trevett ; Elisha Chick ; Nathan Weed.

HOPE.—William Arnold ; John Jones ; William Hasty.

ISLESBORO'—Elisha Eames.

JACKSON.—Jonathan Wright.

KNOX.—Scolly Baker.

LINCOLNVILLE.—Solomon Brooks ; Josiah Stetson ; Israel Miller.

MONTVILLE.—Stephen Barker.

NORTHPORT.—Benjamin Stevens.

PALERMO.—Jacob Greely, jr. ; Chase Robinson, jr.

PROSPECT.—Paul Hitchborn.

SEARSMONT.—Bailey Moore.

SWANVILLE.—Samuel Eames.

THORNDIKE.—Silas Whitcomb.

TROY.—Joseph Green.

UNITY.—Daniel Whitmore ; Hezekiah Chase ; John Stevens.

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BELFAST.—*William Becket ; Robert Emery.*

CAMDEN.—*Tilson Gould ;—Robert Ogier.*

FRANKFORT.—*Tisdale Deane ; John Lindsey ; Abner Twining.*

ISLESBORO'—*Job Philbrook.*

PROSPECT.—*Daniel Putnam.*

Inspectors of Lime.

CAMDEN.—*Job Ingraham, jr.*

HOPE.—*Thomas Bartlett.*

LINCOLNVILLE.—*Abner Milliken, jr.*



BELFAST TOWN OFFICERS for 1827.

Nathaniel H. Bradbury, Town Clerk.

Bohan P. Field,	} Selectmen, Assessors and Overseers of the Poor.
Robert Patterson, 2d.	
John Palmer,	

Thomas Marshall, Treasurer and Collector of Taxes.

Auditors of Accounts.

Rufus B. Allyn ; R C. Johnson ; William Grinnel.

Police Officers.

**Philip Morrill ; John S. Kimball ; Samuel A. Mont-
ton ; Joel Hills ; James Langworthy.**

Surveyors of Highways.

- District No. 1.—Alexander Houston.
 “ “ 2.—Joseph Houston.
 “ “ 3.—George Patterson.
 “ “ 4.—James Durham.
 “ “ 5.—Hiram Holmes.
 “ “ 6.—Robert White.
 “ “ 7.—Joseph P. Ladd.
 Stephen Longfellow.
 “ “ 8.—Robert Patterson, 2d.
 “ “ 9.—David Otis ; John T. Poor.
 “ “ 10.—Samuel W. Miller.
 “ “ 11.—Calvin Pitcher.
 Benjamin P. Dillingham.
-

Constables.

William Salmond—John W. Shepherd.

Firewards.

George Watson.	Philip Morrill.
Daniel Lane.	John S. Kimball.
Joseph Smith.	Bohan P. Field.
Benjamin Hazeltine.	Benjamin Cunningham.
Ralph C. Johnson.	Salathiel Nickerson, jr.

Tithingmen.

Thomas Pickard ; Peter Osgood ; William Durham.

Surveyors of Lumber and Measurers of Wood.

Nathan B. Foster.	James Gammans.
Samuel French.	John Groos.
Benjamin Eells.	Jonas Emery.
John Haraden.	John T. Poor.
Samuel Jackson, jr.	Shepherd B. Blanchard.
William Becket.	Joseph Treat.
Samuel Jackson.	James McCrillis.
Samuel B. Hanson.	Peter Winslow.
Salathiel Nickerson, jr.	Josiah D. Hinds.
Thomas Cunningham.	Otho Abbot.
Samuel Gilbreth.	

Culler of Hoops and Staves.

J. L. Moer.

General School Committee.

Rev. William Frothingham ; Rev. Nathaniel Wales ;
 Hiram O. Alden ; William Poor ; Zebah Washburn.

Law Agent.

Bohan P. Field.

School Agents.

District No.	1.—Mark Blaisdel.
" "	2.—Lewis Bean, 2d.
" "	3.—Robert Patterson, 3d.
" "	4 and 5.—Philip Morrill.
" "	6.—C C. Chandler.
" "	7.—John W. Wilder
" "	8.—Benjamin Monroe
" "	9.—Nahum Hunt.
" "	10.—John T. Poor.
" "	11.—Robert Hills.
" "	12.—Nathaniel Gilmore
" "	13.—Dennis Emery.
" "	14.—James McCrillis.

*BELFAST DEBATING CLUB.**Present officers.*

Alfred Johnson, jr. *President.*

Joseph Williamson, 1st *Vice President.*

James White, 2d *do.*

Hiram O. Alden, *Secretary.*

John S. Kimball,

William Crosby,

Bohan P. Field,

R. C. Johnson,

Daniel Lane,

} *Standing Committee.*

Insurance Offices.

The following offices have agents in Belfast.

Manufacturers and Mechanics, Boston—James White.

Commonwealth, Boston—G. F. Cox.

Protection, Hartford, Conn --H. O. Alden.

New-England, Concord, N. H.—William Stevens.

CUSTOM HOUSE.

Daniel Lane, *Collector of the Customs.*

Nathaniel H. Bradbury, *Deputy Collector, Inspector,
Gauger, &c.*

James Douglass, *Inspector, employed in revenue boat.*

Camden.

Galvin Curtis, *Inspector.*

Frankfort.

Aaron Holbrook, *Inspector.*

Bangor.

Joseph Carr, *Inspector.*

ERRATA.

Page 11, note 2, for 1803 read 1603.

" 14, note 1 refers to 1608, and should have followed the reference to Popham and Gilbert on the preceding page.

" 27 line 4 strike out and.

" 33, line 9 in note, for Barrett read Barnet.

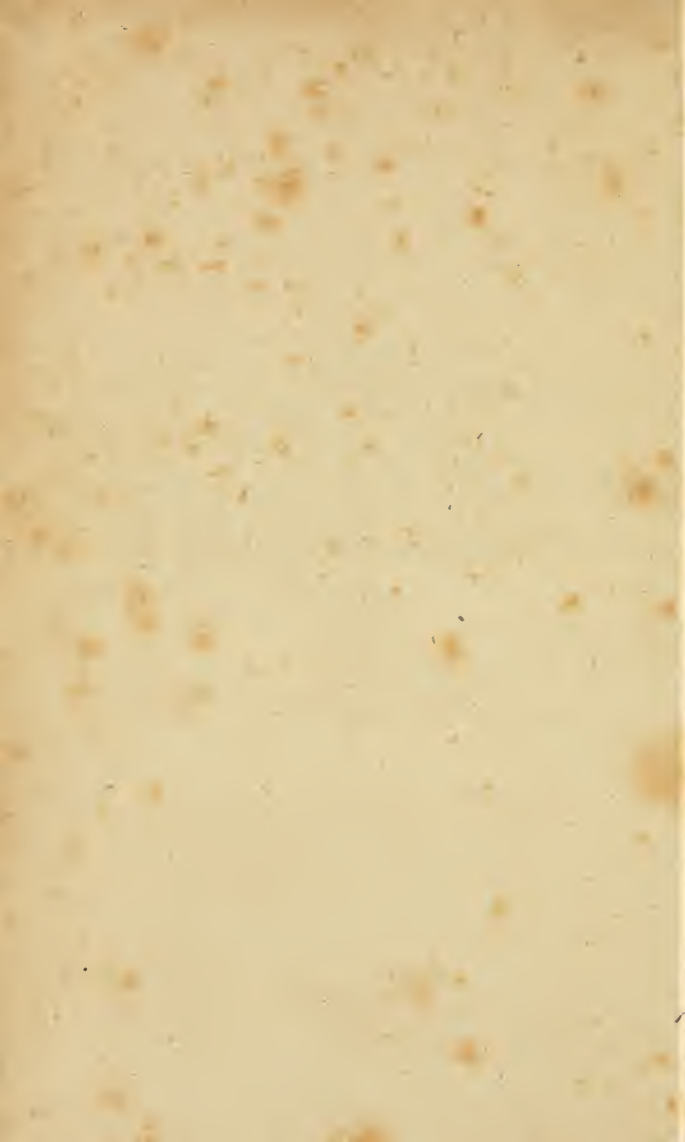
" 49, line 17. The courts of the county of Waldo are "to be" held in the hall, and county offices there "to be" kept.

" 67, line 10, after it insert and.

" 69, line 24, for emigration read emigrants.

" 72, line 2, for Charles read Noah.











OCT 77



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